

Service Date: December 30, 1983

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

* * *

IN THE MATTER Of The Application)
Of MOUNTAIN STATES TELEPHONE AND)UTILITY DIVISION
TELEGRAPH COMPANY (MOUNTAIN BELL))DOCKET NO. 83.11.75
For Authority To Introduce Centron)DEFAULT ORDER NO. 5038
300, Centron 6, Centron 30, and)
Digital Carrier Service.)
_____)

On October 6, 1983, Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company (Mountain Bell) filed a request with the Montana Public Service Commission (Commission) for authority to introduce Centron-300 service. On October 27, 1983, Mountain Bell requested authority to introduce Centron-6 and Centron-30 service. And on October 18, 1983, Mountain Bell requested authority to introduce Digital Carrier Service.

Centron is a form of enhanced service which utilizes the Mountain Bell electronic central office equipment. Associated customer premise equipment must be provided by the customer. Centron availability is limited to central offices with No. 1 or 1A Electronic Switching Systems. Centron-300 is designed for large business systems with up to 300 access lines. Centron-6 and Centron-30 are designed for residence and business systems with up to 6 and 30 access lines, respectively. Among the enhanced services Centron-300 provides are: touch-tone, call transfer, direct inward dialing, et cetera. Centron-6 and

Centron-30 provides touch-tone, intercommunication, three-way calling, et cetera. A complete listing of Centron features, as well as proposed rates for the Centron service, is available at the offices of the Commission.

Digital Carrier Service is a two point private line service designed to accommodate two-way transmission of digital signals at a rate of 1.544 Megabits per second. Digital Carrier Service can be used for either intraexchange or interexchange transmission and is also available only where central office facilities permit. Rates for Digital Carrier Service would be provided on a customer-specific basis.

Having considered the application and the documentation furnished by Mountain Bell in support of its application, the Commission makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. A Notice Of Opportunity For Public Hearing was issued on November 15, 1983. The notice was published in the Billings Gazette, Daily Chronicle, Montana Standard, Great Falls Tribune, Ravalli Republic, Havre Daily News, Independent Record, Livingston Enterprise, Miles City Star and Missoulian. The notice stated that if no hearing was requested by December 19, 1983, an appropriate order may be issued based upon evidence submitted with the application.
2. No request for a hearing was received and no hearing was scheduled.
3. Mountain Bell application includes estimates of the cost of Centron and Digital Carrier Service.

4. The Commission finds that the Mountain Bell proposal enhances customer choice by providing additional options to customers. The Commission also finds that the Company's rate proposal adequately reflects cost-of-service.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Mountain Bell furnishes telephone service within the State of Montana and is a "public utility" under the regulatory jurisdiction of the Montana Public Service Commission. MCA 69-3-101.

2. The rate levels approved herein are reasonable and just. MCA 69-3-330.

ORDER

1. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the tariff revisions proposed are approved.

2. These tariff revisions are effective for service rendered on and after December 22, 1983.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana this 22nd day of December, 1983 by a 5
- 0 vote.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

Thomas J. Schneider, Chairman

Clyde Jarvis, Commissioner

Howard L. Ellis, Commissioner

John B. Driscoll, Commissioner

Danny Oberg, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Madeline L. Cottrill
Commission Secretary
(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request the Commission to re consider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.